

202-230 Main Street (Commercial Buildings)
Warsaw
Hancock County
Illinois

HABS No. IL-249-C

HABS
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34-WAR,
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013

MAIN STREET
Warsaw, Hancock County, Illinois

Owners - The owners of the buildings in the block measured are respectively: #202, W. H. Ortman; #212, Fred Herkus; #214, Ed. Ketter; #218, Elizabeth Link; #220, Edith Schuley; #222, W. H. Ortman; #224, Cora Stevens; #229, Babe Banks and #230 is owned by the town of Warsaw.

Date of Erection - Between 1834 and 1850

Builders - Unknown

Present Condition - Good in most cases.

Number of Stories - One, one and one half, two and three.

Materials of Construction - of the various buildings are as follows:

No. 230 is a frame building with wood store front and wood muntins in the shop windows. There is a false front covered with pine siding concealing the gable end of a shingle roof.

No. 228 is a one and one-half story frame building covered with pine siding. The upper portion of the facade conceals the gable end of a shingle roof.

No. 226 is a three story brick building with a wood store front containing shop windows with wood muntins and two cast iron posts. The windows above the store have high row-lock brick arches, brick sills and wood shutters. There is a corbeled brick cornice across the front of a flat roof.

No. 222 is a brick building with a flat roof and wood cornice across the front. There is a stone lintel over the entire first story store front, supported by brick piers and ornamented cast iron posts. The windows on second and third floor have wood shutters, divided glass and cast iron grilles.

No. 220, a two story brick building constructed between existing buildings Nos. 220 and 218, using their walls as party walls. It has a flat roof and a wood store front containing shop windows with divided sash and supported by cast iron posts. The windows on the second floor have flat brick arches, stone sills, wood shutters and divided sash.

No. 218, is a two story brick building, with low ceilings and flat roof. Small shop windows and double doors have flat row-lock brick arches and wood sills. Upper windows have wood shutters.

No. 214, is a low, one story frame building containing a wood store front with divided glass. Pine siding above the store front conceals the gable end of a shingle roof.

No. 212, is a two story frame building containing wood store front with divided glass in shop windows and has a balcony overhanging the sidewalk, which was originally supported by wood posts. The windows and door on the second floor have divided sash and wood blinds. The front has pine siding above the first floor and a false front conceals the gable end of the shingle roof.

No. 210, is a very low ceiling shop, with small divided glass shop windows with panel blinds and has been shown on the drawings as restored from the old photograph. The gable roof is concealed by a false front of pine siding.

No. 208, is a two story brick building with wood store front and flat roof. The upper windows have cast iron lintels and sills. There is a wood cornice with brackets across the front.

No. 206, is a two story brick building with flat roof and double store front, containing stone columns and a stone lintel. The second floor has divided sash, stone lintels and sills and there is a corble brick cornice.

No. 202, is a brick building with wood shingle roof with double chimney gables at each side. A stone store front contains wood shop windows with wood muntins. The other windows have stone sills and lintels, divided sash and wood shutters. There is a stone cornice across the front and brick coping at the sides.

Additional Data: Warsaw was laid out in 1834 on a bluff over-looking the Mississippi River, just south of the site of Fort Edward, erected by Major Zachary Taylor in 1814. In the early days it was the shipping center for the surrounding country and was one of the most important ports on the Mississippi River, being a port call for the palatial daily river packets in the St. Louis-Keokuk, St. Paul trade.

It was incorporated as a city in 1853 and before 1875 had reached a population of 20,000. Today its population is 2,000.

Industries of the town during its prosperous period included clam shell button making, flour milling, the manufacture of fine woolen cloth and for a few years farm machinery was made in Warsaw.

Main Street, which is the principal street, retains many of the earmarks of an early, prosperous American frontier town, which has escaped the modernizing efforts of the latter part of the last century.

Source: - Illinois Tourist Guide and notes from report of Harold Sriver.

By Margaret A. Jones

Approved Edwards

W 8/28/37